

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A branching point on a wire is detected in the layout results S101. A delay amount of a route with a dummy buffer being
5 inserted on a wire subsequent to the branching point S102 and that
of the route without a dummy buffer being inserted are then
calculated S103. Based on the delay amounts, an insertion point
at which a load-dividing buffer is to be inserted is determined S104.
On condition that a load-dividing buffer is to be inserted at the
10 insertion point, the drive capability of a driving cell preceding
the insertion point is calculated so that timing constraints are
satisfied S105. Then, after it is confirmed that a load-dividing
buffer is insertable at the determined insertion point S106,
processes of placing a load-dividing buffer, changing the drive
15 capability of the driving cell, and changing wiring information
are performed on the layout results S107.